

Appl. No. : 09/938,804
Filed : August 24, 2001

REMARKS

Claims 15-21, 25-28, and 33-35 have been cancelled without prejudice, Claims 1-4, 22, 24, and 32 have been amended, and Claim 37 has been added. Claims 1-14, 22-24, 29-32, 36, and 37 are pending in this application. The amendments to claims are supported by, for example, previous Claims 1 and 19 and therefore do not introduce any new matter.

In the Office Action mailed May 18, 2005, the Examiner noted that Claims 2-4, 22 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. In order to expedite allowance of the application, Applicant has amended the current independent Claims 1, 4, and 22 to incorporate the subject matter claimed by previous Claims 2, 4, and 22 respectively which the Office Action dated May 18, 2005 was based on. Applicants have also provided minor revisions to the claims to clarify the claimed subject matter. Therefore, the amended independent Claims 1, 4, and 22 are allowable. In the Office Action mailed October 30, 2007, the Examiner noted that Claims 5-14 and 36 were allowed.

Claims 1-4 and 15-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Particularly, the Examiner stated that the recited feature "wherein the gap in a character stroke is not a hole surrounded by the character stroke" is not supported by the original specification. In order to expedite allowance of the application, Applicant has amended or cancelled these claims so that they no longer include the feature objected to by the Examiner. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully required.

Claims 2, 3, 23, 24, 29-32, and 37 are dependent either directly or indirectly on the independent Claims 1, 4, and 22. Applicant respectfully submits that pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶4, the dependent claims incorporate by reference all the limitations of the claim to which they refer and include their own patentable features, and are therefore in condition for allowance. Furthermore, although Applicant has not discussed the specific rejections to dependent claims, Applicant does not necessarily agree with the characterizations of the prior art made by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the above-identified application are in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner finds any

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impediment to allowing all claims that can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 2/29/08

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